



The Utah State Office of Education, with support from the Sorenson Legacy Foundation, is pleased to announce the:

2014 SORENSON LEGACY AWARDS for Excellence in Arts Education

THE SORENSON LEGACY AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN ARTS EDUCATION will recognize excellence in arts education in Utah's public schools. Children and teenage students need a well-rounded education that addresses the whole child. The study of drama, dance, music, and the visual arts helps students explore realities, relationships, and ideas that cannot be expressed simply in words or numbers. Beverley Taylor Sorenson has worked to ensure the arts as the avenue for students to develop voice, sustain engagement in school, and evoke reflection and response. The arts integrate social-emotional learning through making cultural connections. Research supports the claim that learning in the arts increases learning in other academic areas. In the global economy, creativity is essential. Study of the arts provides a venue for creativity to flourish. As educators have felt pressure to give more and more attention to literacy and numeracy, the arts have been pushed to the background. Through the Sorenson Legacy Foundation and the Utah State Office of Education, these awards will recognize the essential nature of education in the arts for Utah's students and distinguish those educators who embrace the arts with

AWARDS

Each recipient will receive a cash award of \$2,500 and an artistic award for display, with an additional \$2,500 awarded to the recipient's school/district for the purpose of supporting the arts program.

Awards will be given in these categories:

- Elementary Visual Arts Instruction
- Elementary Music Instruction

excellence in their practice.

- Elementary Arts Integration
- Secondary Visual Arts Instruction
- Secondary Music Instruction

- Elementary Drama Instruction
- Elementary Dance Instruction
- Secondary Theatre Instruction
- Secondary Dance Instruction

In addition, a Lifetime Achievement Award will be given for exemplary service in arts education over a career. The recipient of this award will receive \$5,000. Finally, \$5,000 will be awarded for an exemplary arts program or initiative in a public school or district.

- Lifetime Achievement in Leadership for the Arts
- Exemplary Arts Program or Initiative in a School or District

APPLICATION

Educators and/or public citizens are invited to nominate individuals for the awards in the appropriate categories. Individuals are not permitted to nominate themselves. Applications will include pertinent personal information (name, position, school, etc.), a narrative describing why the nominee is worthy of the award, letters of support, information including release to contact immediate and district supervisors, and artifacts of achievement. Applications will be sent to school principals, parent organization presidents, and district arts coordinators. The application is available for download on the USOE website at www.schools.utah.gov/curr/FineArt/. Applications should be submitted electronically to: sorensonartsawards@schools.utah.gov. The deadline for applications is March 14, 2014.

AWARD EVENT

Awards will be presented at a formal ceremony including a reception and dinner at an elegant venue in May.

You are encouraged to submit applications for the outstanding arts educators in your district and/or school.